

## UNO prof recounts Nicaraguan experience

By SUSAN KUHLMANN

"I would give a kid a pen and he would put it in his pocket and he'd dance down the street, saying, 'I have a pen, I have a pen!' It struck me as amazing."

The picture is just one of the memories Bruce Johansen brought back with him from Nicaragua. Johansen, a UNO assistant professor of communication, spent eight days in the Central American country last July. His trip was encouraged by Roberto Maestas, a long-time friend from Seattle, who has co-authored two books with Johansen.

The two also share an involvement in *El Centro de la Raza*, a social service center in Seattle, the city where Johansen spent most of his adult life. The organization involves itself in a number of issues, especially those affecting third world countries. "These days they make Nicaragua a priority, in large part because Ronald Reagan has made it a priority," Johansen said.

### Not as a tourist

Johansen said he put off travelling to Nicaragua previously until he had done two things.

First, he wanted to study the country, so that he knew enough about it to put what he saw in some sort of context.

He also waited until he had an outlet for publication about his visit there. "I didn't want to go as a tourist," he said.

Both these conditions were met last summer. Johansen spent considerable time studying Nicaragua, and found a publication outlet in *La Voz* (The Voice), a Seattle magazine for the Spanish speaking. It offered Johansen a fellowship, and is currently carrying a seven-part series about his experiences there.

Johansen's articles are additionally being syndicated by Hispanic Link, a Washington-based news service supplying about 100 magazines and newspapers in both English and Spanish. He said the series, if put together, would be the equivalent of a small book.

As explained in the first installment of Johansen's articles, Seattle has been closely tied to the country of Nicaragua since the 1972 earthquake in Managua (the capital) when it sent relief supplies for victims of the disaster. It also established a formal sister-city relationship with Managua last year.

The Washington city frequently sends delegations to the country. Johansen went with a group of 18. Because he had studied the country and had grown up in Puerto Rico and the Philippines (he described Nicaragua as a cross between the two), Johansen said he was prepared for what they found.

### 'Eat grass first'

But some upper middle class members of the group were "shocked by the poverty" of the country and "the fact that things North Americans take for granted (toilet paper, soap, paper and some medicines) they just don't have," Johansen said.

In an extreme example of the contrast, Johansen explained that in this country, "if you get diarrhea, you can go to Walgreen's and get some Kaopectate," — in Nicaragua, diarrhea is the leading cause of death in children.

Although the current U.S. embargo is contributing to Nicaragua's poverty ("a tube of tooth paste might cost a week's salary"), Johansen said the people are determined not to surrender.

That determination was vocalized, according to Johansen, by one woman whose son was killed by the contras; "I will eat grass before I will submit."

Johansen said the embargo has made the Nicaraguans stronger and more creative. For example, he described how they cope with a shortage of bottles by selling Pepsi in plastic bags, tied at the top. He also said those who have motors find ingenious ways to keep them running long after Americans might have thrown them out.

According to Johansen, the embargo, while causing a great deal of suffering, has not had its intended effect, which is to make them submit. It has, instead, "made them more determined to stay in charge of their own future," said Johansen.

And yet despite the hardships imposed on the Nicaraguan people by the U.S. government, Johansen said they harbor no ill feelings toward American visitors.

"They love North Americans," he said, "it is something that surpasses words. They are very good at distinguishing between the actions of us as people and the actions of our government."

Although cautioned to "be careful" before he left for Nicaragua, Johansen said he felt safe during his stay there, adding "You're probably safer in Managua than you are in most of our own urban areas, in terms of your personal safety."

"As a blond-haired Anglo, I could go out in the streets and I was safe. The whole situation is fraught with irony," he said.

Johansen did feel uneasy when his group went to the Honduran border, when the contras have been active. "We could have been assaulted by people carrying U.S. arms. That's the only time I felt personally threatened," said Johansen.

The group, which included its own translators, was free to go anywhere and ask anything, Johansen said. But, calling it "another irony," he added, "The only place I couldn't get in was the U.S. Embassy . . . I don't know why, I hate to think they were scared of us. The Nicaraguans weren't scared of us."

Johansen was told by a man in charge of security there that normal policy is to make an appointment and receive clearance, which is usually done by phone. Johansen had no phone and, calling it a "Catch 22" experience, he said he wasn't allowed

to use a phone at the gate to make the necessary appointment.

According to Johansen, the Nicaraguan people perceive the U.S. government as "afraid of their example — the fact that the slaves have taken over the plantation, which they have."

Before the revolution (1979), Johansen said, Somoza owned a quarter of the entire economy of the country, and was "one of the 10 richest men on the earth."

He said the situation was like having one family pay the streets, and pick up the trash and sell the food and control all the imports and exports — "and they did it for profit. Nicaragua was Somoza's plantation," Johansen said.

### A state of war

The people of Nicaragua remember Somoza's reign as a dark age, he said, adding "It was a time of death, a time of hunger, a time of disease."

If you tell the people that Ronald Reagan is going to stick up for their freedom and their interests, Johansen said, they respond with a strange look, and point out that "for 40 or 50 years Ronald Reagan stood by while Somoza carried out all forms of terror."

According to Johansen, "The average person is much better off now," although he said some — "those who had it all" — are not. Many of them fled at the time of the revolution. "It's much like after the American Revolution, when most of the Tories went to Canada," Johansen said.

He explained that a revolution does not happen easily or without a cause. "It grows out of long-standing and very acute grievances."

It takes some effort both to stage a revolution and to rebuild afterwards, Johansen said. "That's what they're doing and they're doing it against long odds . . . in a state of war."

"The U.S. hasn't faced that kind of threat since the War of 1812, when the British sailed up the Potomac and burned the capital. The U.S. government has found itself in the same position that George III was in," Johansen said.

One of the changes brought about by the revolution, according to Johansen, is the expansion of education. He explained that teaching as many people as possible to read and write was one of the first priorities, and consequently, "for the first time, most of the school-age children are in school."

The education system in Nicaragua resembles that in the U.S. with elementary schools, high schools and colleges, although there is no charge there, even at the college level.

### Rebuilding

"I have never seen a country that has a higher regard for education," Johansen said. He described how children, wearing tattered clothes and no shoes, would not ask him for money or bubble gum, but rather for his pen.

Johansen said the Nicaraguans are eager for people like himself to present their point of view in this country because they are trying to rebuild.

Continuing, he said, "They had the earthquake, and then they

had the civil war and it was a poor country to start out with, so they would much rather put their time and their energy and what little money they have into schools, hospitals, roads and so on.

"When Reagan calls them terrorists, what they see are the contras coming down and burning their schools and burning their hospitals and destroying roads and stealing cattle and killing — to them that's terrorism," Johansen said.

Asked about the Nicaraguan attitude toward the U.S. administration, Johansen said they know the U.S. has invaded Nicaragua several times and there is a "very real sense" that it could happen again.

He said he thinks they understand that the U.S. has long considered Nicaragua a "client state," similar to a colony. During Somoza's time, Johansen said, the U.S. "created" the country's national guard "to keep the Somozas in power."

But now, he said, "they wish the U.S. would understand that all they want to do is to construct their own future."

Johansen referred to the series of recent events involving U.S. policy with Nicaragua as a "self-fulfilling prophecy."

He explained that the Nicaraguans would like to import American things because most of their products come from America, and they would prefer to replace them with U.S. goods.

"It's ironic that the embargo has forced Nicaragua to trade elsewhere . . . by arming the contras, the U.S. has forced the Nicaraguans to get arms from somewhere . . . the U.S. makes these accusations (while) at the same time carrying out policies which necessitate the very actions that they're criticizing," Johansen said.

### Embargo effects

He added, "Reagan isn't a student of history. He's repeating errors which have been made earlier. Once the current events become history, I think we'll find that some of the things that he has said and done have actually helped to fulfill his own fears."

Johansen compared the Nicaraguan situation to that in Cuba, where, despite the fact that the U.S. has had an embargo since the early '60s, it hasn't undermined the Cuban government. "It hasn't caused the people to overthrow it. What it has done is hurt American business," he said.

He said although people like himself can have some effect by sharing their experiences with the American public, one speech by President Reagan will reach the same number of people as thousands of others writing articles.

"But at the same time," Johansen continued, "Reagan is operating on what someone else has told him. He's surrounded by people who share his own misperceptions." Johansen said he thinks because Reagan hasn't seen the reality which exists in Nicaragua, he is doing things which are not in the U.S. interest.

Asked about the reaction to Nicaragua from Seattle visitors (whose backgrounds vary from retired generals to anarchists) Johansen said, "I think it's fair to say that most of them come

(continued on page 2)



—Roger Tunis

### What? No Jills?

The Jacks, an Omaha-based band, appeared in the Student Center last week as part of the Student Programming Organization's Rising Star series. Members include Dan Bird, left, on guitar, Tom Kenney, center, on drums, and Dan Palensky, right, on bass guitar.



# Health Notes

## Are quacks ripping you off?

It happened. In desperation you succumbed to a late-night T.V. advertisement, promising its product was the sure thing to improve your studying habits, keep you awake, put you to sleep, increase your intelligence, or do anything you want — you name it, it'll do it!

Or maybe the ad guaranteed you'd lose 10 pounds within 24 hours by simply using the promoter's wonder-of-wonders diet aid.

Don't hang your head too low. We've all been mesmerized by the sound of magic at one time or another. By nature, we all want the hard things in life to come easy.

**Do these sound familiar?**  
Vibrating belts; copper bracelets; pyramids; baldness 'cures.' These, my friends, are quackery.

Unfortunately, this is the main principle quacks use to devise their quackery.

But what exactly is quackery? The Food and Drug Administration says: "quackery is misinformation about health." That can cover a wide array of topics.

Perhaps a practical way of deciphering health quackery may be to look for "too good to be

true" claims.

Do any of the following sound too familiar? Vibrating belts that promise to bounce your bulges away; copper bracelets that cure your every ache and pain; pyramids placed over your bed to give you abounding energy; and advertisements for synthetic or natural hair implants that promise to "cure" the balding male.

These, my friends, are examples of quackery. And said, but true, to say, quack producers and quack promoters could really care less about the lies they tell and the danger their products invite; the concern is for the buck.

Experienced quacks know consumers' vulnerabilities. They know we all need a little hope at various points in our lives, and hope is what they actually sell, despite the gadgets, cures, and promises they seem to be offering.

It's a conniving business — a swindling rip-off!

But how do these quack health promoters get away with their schemes and fraudulent products? Despite strict laws against false advertising, most of the media in which the quackery ads appear do not screen for truth or accuracy.

Except for certain medical and health publications, very few magazines and newspapers have doctors or qualified health experts on their staffs. This factor, combined with time and

budget deadlines, hinders any reasonable type of control check on the claims of the quacks.

So, a lot of misinformation gets presented in the same media as helpful and factual information, and this confuses the consumer, as well as muddles the truth. The problem is, many consumers are still not aware of this inaccuracy.

According to a recent national poll, more than 50 million adult Americans agreed that advertisements about medications and health aids must be true or they wouldn't be allowed to be printed. It is indeed unfortunate that this is not the case.

How can we learn to more accurately identify such deceiving health schemes? Asking yourself some of the following questions suggested by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services may help:

\* Does the promoter promise quick and easy cures and physical changes?

\* Is it being sold or promoted by a self-styled health advisor, a crusading organization, a faith-healing group, or in popular magazines?

\* Is it advertised as being good for a wide variety of ailments?

\* Is the product advertised to treat a condition that medical science has not found a treatment for?

\* Does the sponsor claim persecution by the medical community and the government be-

cause they do not accept this wonderful discovery?

\* Is the product available only from the sponsor by mail order and with payment in advance?

\* Does the promoter use many case histories or testimonials from grateful ex-patients?

\* Is the product a special or "secret" remedy not available from any other source?

If you are able to answer "yes" to one or more of these questions, it's best to beware.

Finally, there is one more thing we can all do. If you think you've run into a quack or a quack product, protect yourself and report the problem to the proper government official. You can contact the local Food and Drug Administration (FDA) office, listed in the telephone directory under the United States Government, Health and Human Services Department, to help you report the fraud.

And while you may feel somewhat embarrassed, if nobody speaks up, dangerous and worthless products and practices could forever invade society. It's worth the few minutes it would take.

And remember, the best way to protect yourself is by becoming a well-informed and alert consumer. This in itself may be the best "miracle advice" ever given.

—JOAN ELEDGE

## Johansen finds Nicaraguan trip 'fraught with irony'

(continued from page 1)

back changed, because of what they have been told in the U.S. and what they see with their own eyes are different."

Since people are inclined to trust what they personally observe, Johansen said most of them gain a greater "appreciation of what's going on there" from their visit.

He said he wishes President Reagan would travel to Nicaragua and "see it with his own eyes and then come back and tell us who the terrorists are. Are they the ones who build the schools or the ones who burn them up?"

Local media's handling of Nicaraguan events also bothers Johansen. "Their (the *World-Herald*) coverage of that situation is so abysmally one-sided," he said.

But he doesn't think it's "done out of malice," but rather because "people respond to what they think they know." He expressed doubt that anyone in a position to affect the kinds of

stories that are covered had seen it (Nicaragua) with their own eyes. "If they knew differently, they might give us a different picture," he said.

"If the U.S. is so concerned about the influence of the Cubans and the Russians, perhaps the U.S. should understand that you don't win another nation's friendship or even their respect by frustrating or destroying their own efforts to rebuild," Johansen said.

Nicaragua is claiming its rights as a sovereign state for the first time and, according to Johansen, "The U.S. isn't going to influence them by trying to starve them or destroy them."

Johansen would like to see the United States stop spending money aiding the contras, and instead allow the Nicaraguan

government to use it to rebuild.

He called it a dream, like that of Martin Luther King, and said it isn't something that will happen overnight but "something to fight for."

Asked about the possibility of a change in U.S. policy toward Nicaragua, Johansen said it depends on who is in office, the evolution of the political and economic system, the knowledge American people can gain about others, and on "our ability to understand how to gain other people's respect and love."

Johansen said the Nicaraguan people, having seen change in their own country, are optimistic. "I would like to have the kind of faith in the North American people that the Nicaraguans have," he said.

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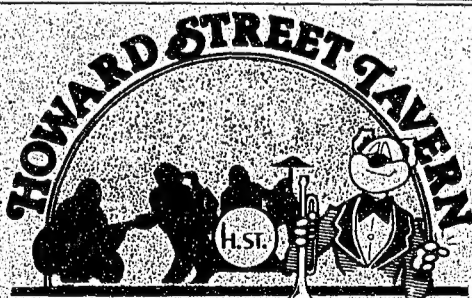
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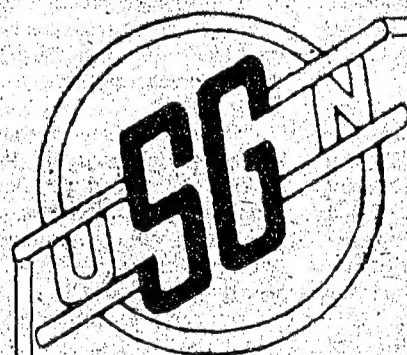
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# Comment

## No imagination?

Every semester, I pick up an extra Student Programming Organization (SPO) movie schedule for a friend who happens to be a foreign film buff. Every semester, he complains about the dearth of foreign films on the schedule and SPO's general lack of imagination.

Not that the SPO movie schedule has ever really been bad. It's just that SPO is going after the wrong competition.

Why should a student go see *Streets of Fire* or *Star Trek II* when they have been played to death on cable? And wasn't *Casablanca* on the schedule last semester?

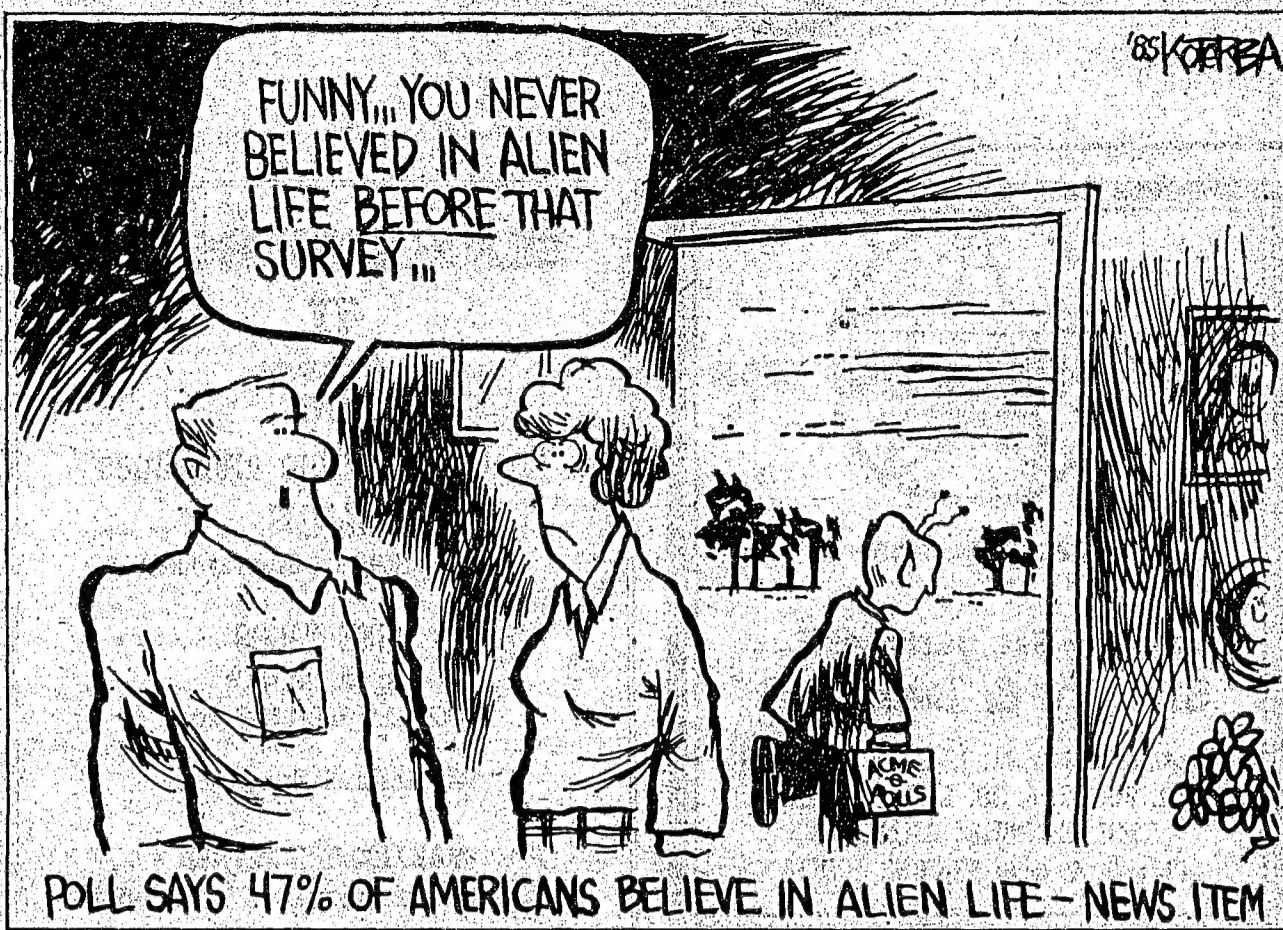
Instead of competing with cable, late-night TV or first-run theaters such as the Cinema Center, SPO should consider competing with the Dundee Theater, the New Cinema Co-Op or Lincoln's Sheldon Art Gallery. Why not try to get films that would otherwise never be seen in Omaha, films that may be considered controversial or *avant-garde* University students certainly ought to be able to handle that.

Oh, I forgot. Obscure films, *avant-garde* films, foreign films don't make money, right? No one will go to a movie unless there's a huge advertising campaign, T-shirts, a rock soundtrack and some horny teen-age boy chasing some sexy young thing.

Students interested in the usual type of movie can go anywhere. SPO should show a little imagination next time movie schedules are being considered and get some films *no one* has ever heard of before.

Who knows? Those lines of people waiting to get into the SPO movie might be longer if the featured film wasn't on cable the day before.

—KAREN NELSON



## Out of Context by Kevin Cole

I'm an incurable snooper.

Not the type to go through your personal papers if I'm invited to your house, but more of the kind who opens every door and peeks into every closet as you give the grand tour.

I'm nosy in an innocent sort of way. For me common, ordinary people are interesting. What they do for a living, what they do for R-and-R, where they came from and where they're going are speculations most of us have from time to time.

Not very deep, but it passes for some kind of philosophical-humanism in these nuclear-wasted days of 1985.

Snatches of conversations, style of dress, sense of attitude and choice of surrendings are the signals I look for in building my scenarios. Some call this "people watching."

Traveling down the Milo Bail freeway from one end of the campus to the other, three or hearing more days a week, snippets of conversation become like breaking into every channel on the Cox Cable menu.

"So, I look around and there's the biggest damn dog I've ever seen coming after me... a short rumped fellow was telling his buddy as

I pedaled by on my 10-speed the other day.

For me, the entire way home from UNO was a breeze. Rather than thinking about the torturous hills of California Street, I was preoccupied with the actions which could have caused the dog's attack on Rumpelstiltskin.

Perhaps he'd been trespassing or had made the father of some girl angry about the time his daughter had been returned home.

I wondered, too, how he'd come out of the situation. Suspense Theater in the flesh.

Getting packed twixt the throng of the between-class-shuffle along the Bail boulevard is like handing your cable remote control box to a drunk with the DTs or a chimpanzee with a nervous condition.

Signals start bouncing into the antenna from all over.

"I'm *not* kidding. I got an A." "... all for the sake of being able to say I've never welched on a bet. Boy, is my dad going to kill me." "You could see it running under the door. I thought we were going to have to call the landlord."

With spare time on my hands, I'm not averse to following the source of such conversations past my intended destination and to their own.

## Dangling conversations

Call it eavesdropping if you like, but I prefer to think of it as intelligence gathering.

It's sort of my sacred duty as a columnist to keep my fingers on the pulse of this collegiate community. Anyway, that's what I tell myself.

If I've learned anything about any one subject in particular while keeping my ears open on this campus, it's which courses and professors it might be better to avoid.

Horror stories of teachers who take daily attendance and revel in throwing pop quizzes are dutifully filed away in my memory.

"She expected us to have kept up with the reading for the entire first two weeks," whined one co-ed recently. A shudder went up my spine as I recorded the teacher's last name in my private history of "Who's Who at UNO" and hooked a U-turn to my own classroom.

For savoring the tidbits of salacious conversations there's nothing like sitting around the student center and overhearing the tales of a group of students. For some reason, if the group is composed entirely of one or other other sexes, the tidbits are that much more catty (for lack of a better word).

"You *knoooo*, Jenny won't ever admit to

going up there with him," one of Jenny's girl friends is telling another. And the discussion as to what probably happened based on past knowledge continues until Jenny shows up and the conversation turns to Linda, who isn't out of her class yet.

Guys fear no better among their peers but somehow unless it involves some wild tale of improbable circumstances like "both girls showed up and they ended up finding out about it from his mom while he was at school," or some such, I'm not as apt to listen.

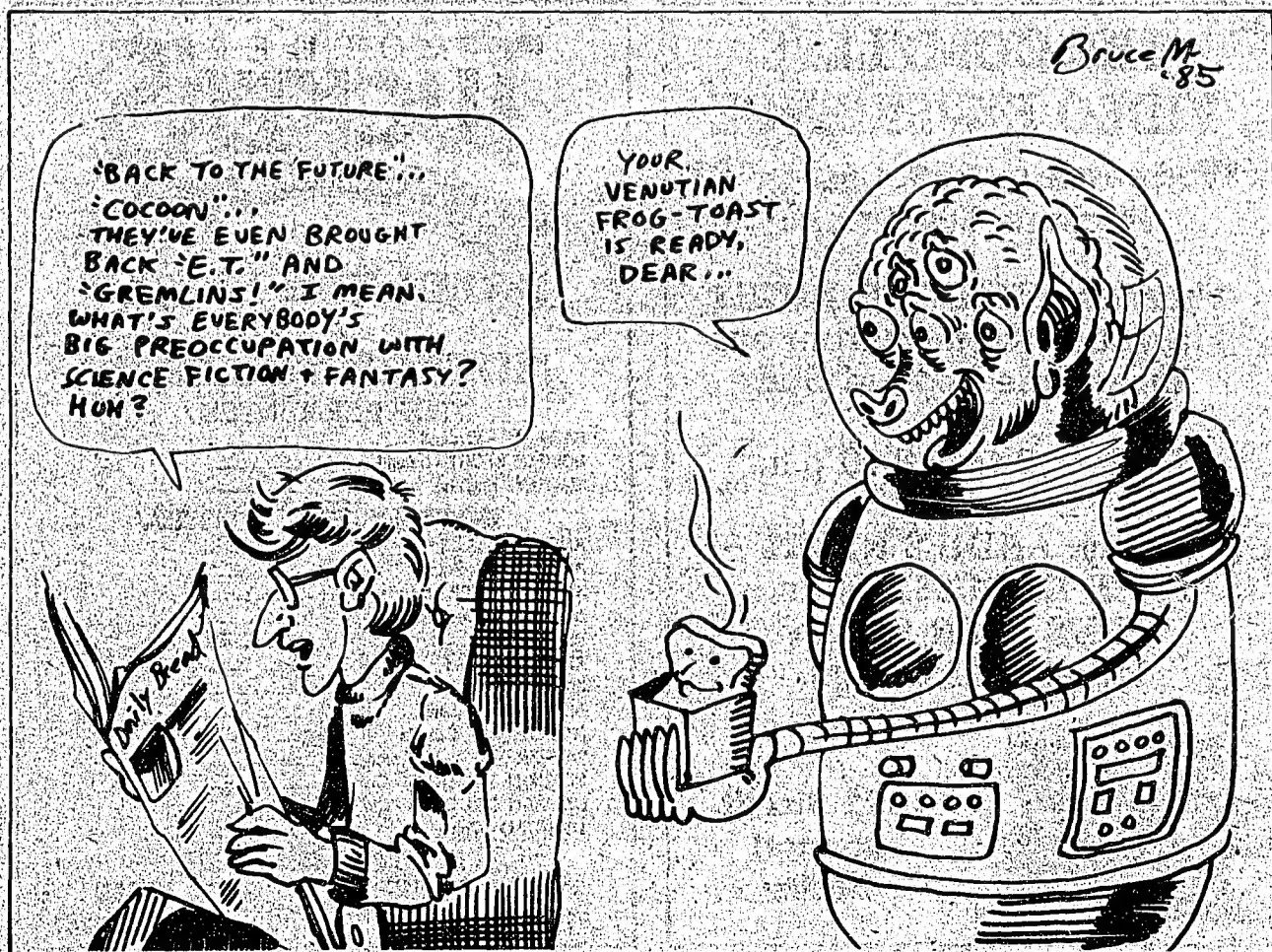
Of course being nosy has its drawbacks.

Watching another student intently going over *The Gateway* with a pen and later picking up the discarded copy and finding out he's inserted some very disparaging comments in the margins of this space is humbling to say the least.

Possibly the only thing worse is to overhear a conversation about yourself from some unseen vantage point.

"I swear if he had brains he'd be dangerous" or "don't worry if he tries to come along, we'll ditch him," cut deep.

Especially if my folks then send me a typed transcript of their remarks C.O.D.



### The Gateway

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## Op Ed

## 'Oh, my God! You mean — you mean there's no God?'

"It was just an in-class exercise, Les."

I knew immediately that I'd said the wrong thing. Les Apt's face could not have been more angst-ridden if Kafka himself had written it on the front of his head.

"Nothing is just an exercise, Dan! Don't you see? Everything is essentially unimportant, which makes everything a matter of life or death! I think! Or maybe I don't...?"

What are they teaching this poor guy? I wondered, ordering a soda for myself. Existential crisis went out with LSD and modular scheduling! Could some unscrupulous agent be softening him up for the old Marxist Historianism hook? I thought it unlikely, but it was still lucky I'd run into him in the bar. I decided to nip whatever it was in the bud.

"Let's go over this again, Les. Start from the beginning and go slow."

"We had to do an interview in news writing class. Practice. Had a list of questions to ask a classmate. Did fine until question seven. Couldn't do it... just couldn't..."

"Couldn't what, Les? You couldn't ask question seven?"

"No, no! I couldn't answer question seven?"

He took a sheet of paper from his shirt pocket and shoved it at me. It was a list of questions. One through six were pretty tame; name, address, age, and so on. Then I read number seven and it all made sense—"In three sentences or less, sum up attitude toward life." Period. No ifs ands or buts. Les had been set face-to-face with his own attitude toward life, had been asked to tell somebody else about it, and had been forced to do it in three sentences or less, all in the same class period! No wonder he was shook.

"I did OK," he continued, "until I got to God. Once I got

started I just... I couldn't... there wasn't..."

"Steady, Les, you're looping. I think we're closing in on it, though. Tell me about God."

"God," Les said, "made the universe. I mean, that's safe, isn't it? Something had to make everything, right? And God is perfect. God is all-powerful, God is all-knowing, God is... God, right? That's where I started to lose it."

"See, I thought about it. God made everything. That means it made the evil along with the good, or at least it made the Devil who went ahead and made evil for God. Now, why? Why would God make evil? If God is perfectly good, how could it make evil? And if God isn't perfectly good, how can it be God?"

"Wait a minute, I said to myself, maybe God made evil for a reason. Maybe evil is there so humans have a choice. Maybe God gave humans a choice to test their faith in God and make them strong, or to see who is too weak to make the grade in heaven."

"But when I think, what choice does a baby have who is killed in a bombing raid or is eaten by rats in its crib? Does God think that baby is expendable, or does God suck it right up to heaven and skip the test part? Why would God allow children, who haven't had a chance to earn any punishment, to get blown apart or starve to death?"

"Now I'm worried for God, because he's not doing so well, so I think, maybe God doesn't see those babies as fully human, like maybe a person has to be old enough to make choices before the test begins."

"Take me, for example. God gives me a choice between good and evil. If I'm smart I pick the good, right? But do I really have

a choice? God made all this. God is all-seeing and all-knowing. God knew I'd have this big choice to make, and God must also know what I'll choose! Every time I make a choice God already knows the outcome! All my choices have already been made, but God let's me go right ahead and fumble around as though it made a difference! Now what kind of God is that?"

I put my hand on Les' shoulder and looked him in the eye, thinking all the while that the teacher who gave Les that list might as well have given a hand grenade to a chimpanzee. Les had nearly blown his philosophical head off, and it was time for radical religious surgery.

"Les, listen carefully. No God. No Almighty Puppet Master. Your choices are yours. They're conditioned by many things, but you have a free will to exercise within those conditions. There is nothing, Les, nothing, that is absolute and unchanging, and you have as long as you need to realize this."

"No God?" Les muttered. "Then who made everything?"

"Nobody made the universe, Les. For our purposes it has no beginning and no end, and don't tell me you can't imagine that, Les, because you had no trouble thinking it about a fake God."

"The point is, Les, if you don't know the reason for something, don't make up God to fill in the gaps. It's dangerous and unnecessary. Now drink your beer."

As Les wrapped his hand around the glass I could see the confidence returning to his face. He held up the glass and called to the bartender.

"Soda, please."

That's my boy.

—DAN PRESCHER

## No Reagan book yet? Are they waiting for a movie?

As Ronald Reagan, who has vanquished so many liberals, comes out yet again to battle their paladins on Capitol Hill and in the bureaucratic foxholes, one of the mysteries of the Republic must be the scarcity of commentaries and books admiring or even noting his accomplishments. In the United Kingdom there are, at this very hour, over half a dozen books out assaying Prime Minister Thatcher's accomplishments or blunders. In America I doubt there are that many different presidential postcards available, though the Reagan administration is markedly more historic than the Thatcher government, its break with the past being bolder. And Mrs. Thatcher appears almost monotonous when placed next to Ronald Reagan, an ex-actor, judged a political has-been in 1977, and now our oldest president.

We have, admittedly, the obligatory campaign books, but all are tedious and insipid. Some Washington observers argue that the dullness of these books and the paucity of other Reagan books is owing to the size of the 1984 landslide and to the fact that in his campaign Ron said

very little about his policies and his *Weltanschauung*. The explanation will not wash.

Electoral squeakers are not the only elections that fetch the imagination and quicken the pulse. The Roosevelt election of 1936 was a stupendous landslide, and on the campaign trail the great Roosevelt said little that was daring or memorable. The election evoked, however, vast commentary. It marked the end of the old Republican order and the rise of a new perspective on American constitutional politics. The Roosevelt campaign hummed along flawlessly, but few campaigns have attracted more literary attention, and to this day many of us recognize James A. Farley's jest: "As Maine goes, so goes Vermont."

No such jests mark the 1984 landslide, nor will you find as many books written about RR's first few years as were written about FDR's, though the Reagan administration represents a similar disjunction with the past. After overcoming such fantastic figures as Gary Hart,

Jesse Jackson, and George McGovern, the Hon. Walter Mondale headed possibly the most liberal ticket of the century only to blow up in a poof on election day when the voters opted for one of the century's most conservative tickets, Reagan-Bush — not the equal of the fabulous Coolidge-Dawes ticket of 1924, but admirably conservative nonetheless. What is more, the Reagan administration's policies have been bold departures from the social engineering that had reached an apogee with affirmative action, from spiraling taxation, and from the passivity of the Carter foreign policy. Still, books, articles, and even television commentaries on these amazing events are scarce.

What makes this a mystery is that the Reagan administration could make such a gripping legend. Radicals could bring together all their fears of impending doom: starvation in the streets, upheaval amongst the masses, suddenly comes America's Marxist Dawn! But radicals have contemplated the Reagan regime for five years and are too fearful now to write of such calamity and rebirth. Conservatives, too,

could turn out a tolerable legend: a septuagenarian Prince Charming, a pretty and stylish First Lady, liberty renewed, the American eagle soars anew — a Camelot for clock-toppers! Yet conservatives seem speechless. In Washington they fret over jobs and live with the melancholy knowledge that few of their colleagues read, so why write about Ronald Reagan?

The real question is why the consensus commentators in the middle do not write interesting books about the last five years of Reaganism. Instead they write sleep-inducing tomes such as Jack Germond and Jules Witcover's aptly titled *Wake Us When It's Over*. Is this owing to a massive loss of imagination or has it to do with their source in the Oval Office? Perhaps Ronald Reagan does not want books and articles written about him. Upon close inspection, there always has been a mysterious reticence around Ronald Reagan, and it intensifies the closer one gets to him.

—R. EMMETT TYRRELL JR.

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## What's Next Women's open house

The Women's Resource Center (WRC) is holding an open house Sept. 16 through Sept. 20. Activities include presentations on financial aid, self-defense, assertiveness and women's history. Lane Zarr will kick off the WRC's "Women in the Arts" series Sept. 19 in the Student Center Ballroom.

For a full schedule of programs and locations, or to register for workshops, call the WRC, 554-2730. The WRC, Room 301 of the Student Center, will be open Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The WRC is a Student Government Agency.

## Sex and the college student

Josh McDowell, a lecturer with the Campus Crusade for Christ, will speak on "Maximum Sex" Sept. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

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## Angry young men and women

"Anger: Yours, Mine and Ours," a workshop on handling anger, will be offered by the College of Continuing Studies starting Sept. 19. The three-session workshop will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Kiewit Conference Center, 1313 Farnam St. Participants will learn the various forms anger takes, how to deal with anger, and will practice appropriate ways of expressing anger. For more information or to register, call 554-2618.

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# Model Citizens have fewer players but 'meaner' sound

Hosted by the Howard Street Tavern, the new Model Citizens presented the audience with a trio of players and a "meaner" or more direct sound.

Changes in personnel have caused the loss of synthesizers and bongos in the instrumental lineup.

Danny O'Kane, lead guitar and vocals, claims that the band needed to get back to the basics. "We were becoming too much of a studio band," said O'Kane.

With two EP's under their belt, the Citizens decided changes were necessary. Dave Cookson, the synthesizer jockey, is going to law school while bongo master Brian Sistek is joining a top Minneapolis band.

As Stuart Cary, bass guitar for the Citizens put it, "We (Cary, O'Kane and drummer Rob-

son) are the core. We can add other members, but as it stands we are all we need right now."

The song lineup of originals, conceived by O'Kane, takes a little ear-bending to recognize them in their rawer state.

My first impression was that some of the riffs resembled the pseudo-psychedelic twangs that Prince is attempting to revive. This change is influenced by the band's move to Minneapolis.

Without the smoothness of the synthesizers or constant thump of the bongos, the lead guitar is overwhelming. At times it sounded unbalanced.

O'Kane appears to be too busy concentrating on maneuvering his guitar to focus on the showmanship of the entire group.

Cary seems content, if not more exuberant, to be in the limelight because now more bass

is heard. His dance bobs and jags would make him a major contender in any boxing ring. Experience is evident as he handles his instrument with assurance.

Drummer Robson's unrelenting strokes keep tempo and command a feeling of authority.

The Model Citizens of the past had no trouble filling the dance floor to the brim. This crowd seemed to have no difficulty adapting to the harsher sound and bopping on the dance floor.

"The new sound lets you feel the pulse of the music. We needed to get 'meaner.' We had to get the edge back into our music," said O'Kane.

The "edge" is definitely there, but it's so potent that it detracts from other aspects. O'Kane has one of the most inimitable voices I

have ever heard. He can reach the higher notes with a clarity that would rival Ella Fitzgerald in a Memorex commercial.

Virgin listeners of the Model Citizens were enthusiastic about the band, while veterans mostly sat in awe, not knowing how to react.

After seeing the band three nights in a row, I came to the conclusion that I liked it. It was like meeting an old friend and discovering differences but accepting and appreciating them. The Model Citizens is a band that should be experienced.

A new record is due out later this year which also features the talent of a favorite local musician, Joe Budenholzer of the well-received rock and roll band, Shreds.

—LISA STANKUS

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# Sports

## Mavs gear up for 'Super Bowl Saturday'

By ERIC OLSON

UNO head football coach Sandy Buda says tomorrow is Super Bowl Saturday for Kearney State.

The Mavericks, 1-0, travel to Kearney tomorrow to play the Antelopes in a 7:30 game at Foster Field.

"This is their Super Bowl," Buda said. "Whether Kearney has a strong football team or not doesn't matter. They always play us hard. I hope we don't take them too lightly."

The Antelopes, 20-3 losers to South Dakota last week, won't let the game against UNO make or break their season. "Our conference actually means a lot more to us," Kearney State coach Claire Boroff said in a telephone interview. "Our basic approach is to play one week at a time. So up to this point, yes UNO has to be the biggest game of the season."

"If you are talking about a state rivalry, this and Wayne State rate as the biggest games," he said.

The Antelopes were complimented by South Dakota coach Dave Triplett following their loss last week. Triplett said Kearney State was strong enough to compete in the North Central Conference, a league Buda considers the best in NCAA Division II.

"I think that's a compliment to our players more than anything else," Boroff said. "We don't have the facilities to play in the NCC week in and week out without taking a beating."

"It is good that we get a chance a couple times a year to play a South Dakota U. or a UNO."

Kearney State has proven to be the class of its conference, however. The Antelopes have won or tied for the NAIA Central States Intercollegiate Conference title seven of the last nine years.

UNO is cautious about the success of its offensive line last week.

"I was encouraged. We had five good scoring drives, which is a good sign," Buda said. "But we don't know how strong Central Missouri was. It's hard to tell how good they are until later in the season."

Those scoring drives were 76, 56, 67, 80 and 62 yards.

The Mavericks' offense also showed good balance against Central Missouri. UNO gained 204 yards rushing and 233 more passing. "Anytime you're 50-50 with the run and pass, you are moving the chains with consistency," Buda said.

He was also pleased with the depth at running back. Junior Gerald Kellogg rushed for 57 yards, junior Steve Macaitis, 37, junior Jeff Hardick, 44 and senior Mark Gurley, 40.

"All along I said we have good backs," Buda said. "We played five of them Saturday, and as the season continues I'm sure we'll play more."

Scott Jamieson, a junior who has battled sophomore Rick Majerus for the starting quarterback job, held on to that position in last Saturday's game. Jamieson completed 13 of 24 passes for 182 yards. Majerus was three-for-four for 51 yards, including a touchdown pass to Tim Krof.

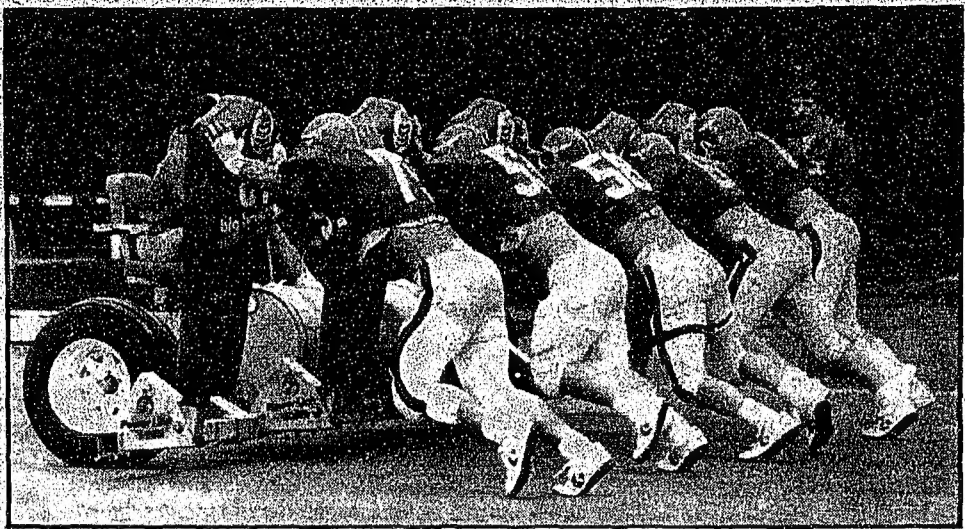
"I always knew we had good quarterbacks," Buda said. "It just is that we don't know for sure which one is best."

Competition for the quarterback's job has been a rarity at UNO during Buda's eight years. The last battle was in 1981, when sophomore Randy Naran and Mark McManigal vied for the position. Naran took the job for good in 1981 when McManigal decided to quit football.

The most serious casualty in the Central Missouri game was starting offensive tackle Mike McIntyre, who underwent knee surgery Sunday and will be lost for the season. McIntyre, a 6-foot-1, 266-pound sophomore from Bellevue East, apparently suffered ligament damage in the game.

Freshman punter Jeff Podraza of Columbus, Neb., sprained an ankle in the third quarter but may see action against Kearney State. If Podraza can't play, freshman Randall Emery of Cement City, Mich., or junior Jon Hart of Norfolk, Neb., would take over the punting chores.

The UNO players of the week are split end James Quaites and strong safety Gary Baker.



—Roger Tunis

UNO's offensive line drives against the blocking sled in preparation for the Kearney State game tomorrow.

Quaites, a senior from Omaha Northwest, caught five passes for 60 yards, including touchdown receptions of 7 and 21 yards. He also caught a pass for a two-point conversion. Baker, a senior from Omaha Benson, made five tackles

and forced a fumble.

Other Mavericks receiving mention for the award were linebacker Darin Lintner and cornerback Dan Nielsen on defense and center Jerry Kripal and Gurley on offense.

## Season opener gets poor attendance

UNO head football coach Sandy Buda said Monday that he was disappointed in the attendance at last Saturday's season opener at Al Caniglia Field.

A crowd of 7,100 watched as the Mavericks defeated Central Missouri State 34-6.

"That was the worst crowd since I started at UNO eight years ago," Buda said. "We're thankful for the people that did come, though."

UNO has drawn a capacity crowd of 10,000 for its home openers over the last seven years. "We even sold out in 1980 when we played Evangel. I had to explain to people about where Evangel was, but we still sold out for that game," Buda said.

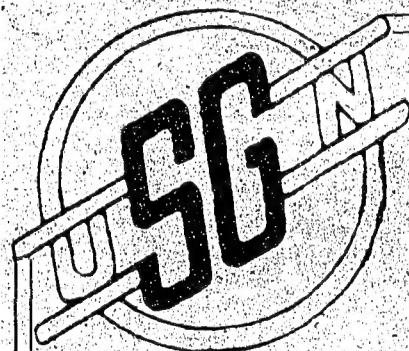
The game against the Springfield, Mo. college was actually in 1979, when the Mavericks won 38-0 before 10,000 fans.

Buda said he was mostly concerned about the lack of students at the Central Missouri game. "I'd like to see our student body out there," he said. "They have student ID cards and can get in free. If they're not going to use them, then we might as well make money and sell the tickets to the public. We could sell them."

UNO drew 51,700 for six home games last year, an average of 8,617. Games that sold out were wins over Kearney State and South Dakota during the second and third weeks of the season.

The Mavs' worst attendance at home in 1984 was in a 27-6 victory over St. Cloud State in a game played in the afternoon.

On the road, the Mavs played before just 500 in a 28-7 triumph over Mankato State last year.



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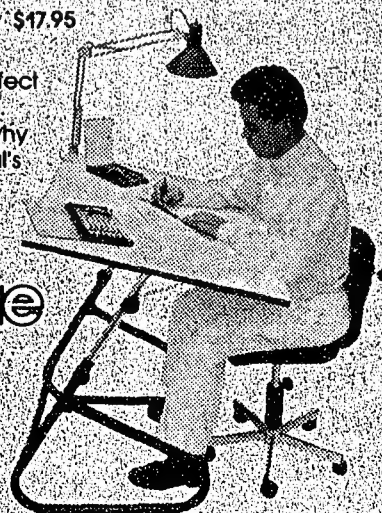
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# College and Pro Picks

by Eric Lindwall

Once again, Eric rises from the monotony of being a UNO student to display his expertise as a part-time prognosticator. Last week Eric hit on 61 percent of his selections.

As expected, there were many upsets in both college and pro football this past weekend. In addition to Nebraska's loss at the hands of Florida State, the 49ers and the Dolphins, conference champions last year, both went down to defeat in their respective season openers.

While San Francisco and Miami should bounce back this week, the Big Red will get a week off to contemplate its Sept. 21 meeting with Illinois, who was also upset last Saturday.

The following is a look at this week's games:

**Baylor at Georgia** — Baylor beat Wyoming 39-18 last week but won't have it so easy tomorrow.

Georgia lost its opener to Alabama largely due to a slow starting offense and a surprisingly tough Crimson Tide defense. The Bulldogs did move the ball well in the fourth quarter though; and this should carry over into Saturday's game. Look for the Bulldogs to even its record at home, Georgia 24-16.

**Southern Mississippi at Auburn** — Although there are handfull of football teams with comparable talent, none have the type of schedule Auburn does. The Tigers should finish the season undefeated and play for the National Championship on New Year's Day. Auburn in a rout tomorrow, 42-14.

**Noire Dame at Michigan** — Bo Schembechler finished last year with his worst record as the Wolverines' head coach (6-6).

The fans in Ann Arbor won't be disappointed this year however; quarterback Jim Harbaugh, injured last week, returns with a solid cast of receivers to complement a solid defense. Michigan 27-17.

Other college games this week include: Michigan St. 28, Arizona St. 20; Maryland 24, Boston College 21; LSU 31, North Carolina 21; Georgia Tech 27, N.C. State 14; Florida 28, Rutgers 27; Hawaii 24, Utah 10; and UNO 35, Kearney St. 17.

## NFL

**Houston at Washington** — the Redskins looked pathetic Monday night throwing six interceptions, two for Cowboy touchdowns. Danny White led Dallas to a 44-14 romp, passing for 219 yards and one touchdown.

The Oilers are an improved team, but must travel to RFK stadium to face a Redskin team that had better win by at least two touchdowns to get out of coach Joe Gibbs' doghouse. Redskins 31-17.

**Minnesota at Tampa Bay** — How 'bout those Vikings! With largely the same group of players that finished 3-13 last year, the Vikes came out and whipped the defending Super Bowl champion 49ers 28-21 in Bud Grant's homecoming game.

Tampa Bay exhausted all its resources against Chicago last Sunday but still came up short 39-28. Look for the revitalized Viking team to win its second straight as the underdog. Minnesota 27-21.

**New Orleans at Denver** — John Elway and the Broncos seemed to have control of the game last week against the Rams until the final minutes of the fourth quarter.

In an exciting finish the Broncos let the game slip away allowing Los Angeles a touchdown with two minutes remaining.

Watch for the Broncos to bounce back against the lowly Saints, Denver 34-13.

Other NFL games this week: San Francisco 31, Atlanta 14; Green Bay 24, NY Giants 17; St. Louis 23; Cincinnati 17; Chicago 24, New England 23; Dallas 27, Detroit 21; LA Rams 27, Philadelphia 24; and this week's Upset Special: Buffalo 27, NY Jets 21.

## Classifieds

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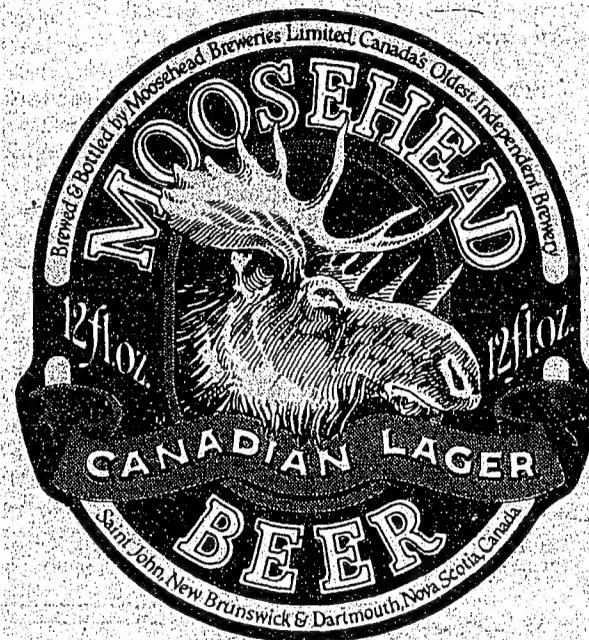
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